



**State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908
(360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdcc.wa.gov

December 10, 2019

Delivered electronically to "k.geiger@snofire5.org"

Subject: Complaint filed by Steven Fox, PDC Case 59154

Dear Kelly Geiger:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Steven Fox concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter to Steven Fox, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

PDC staff is reminding you about the importance of providing detailed expenditure descriptions on C-4 reports. PDC staff expects in the future that you will report this information in accordance with PDC laws and rules.

If you have questions, you may contact Tabatha Blacksmith at 1-360-586-8929, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

/s

Tabatha Blacksmith
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavalley
Executive Director



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December 10, 2019

Delivered electronically to "steven.c.fox@gmail.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Kelly Geiger, PDC Case 59154

Dear Steven Fox:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on October 22, 2019. The complaint alleged that Kelly Geiger, a candidate for Fire Commissioner for Snohomish Fire Protection District 5, position 3 may have violated RCW 42.17A.240 by failing to provide sufficient expenditure details on C-4 reports during election year 2017.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided by Kelly Geiger (the "Respondent"); and the applicable PDC reports filed by Respondent to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- RCW 42.17A.240(6) requires candidates to report the name and address of each person to whom an expenditure was made in the aggregate amount of more than fifty dollars during the period covered by the report, including the amount, date and "purpose of each expenditure," as well as the total sum of all expenditures.
- WAC 390-16-037 states that expenditure reports "shall describe in detail" the goods and/or services provided and includes an example containing a numerical description (e.g. the number of brochures purchased).
- The Respondent filed four *Summary, Full Report Receipts and Expenditures* (C-4 reports) in 2017 that appeared to lack expenditure details regarding signs, political flyers, and handout/flyers.
- Between 10/24/19 and 11/12/19, the PDC made three attempts to reach the Respondent by email regarding the allegation, the last of which was successful. The Respondent replied within 24 hours of being reached and worked with PDC staff to amend its reports.
- On October 15, 2019, the Respondent amended four of its C-4 reports to include additional expenditure details for signs, political flyers, and handout/flyers (reports #100945721, #100945722, #100945723, and #100945724).

Based on our findings, staff has determined that, in this instance, failure to provide complete expenditure descriptions on C-4 reports does not amount to a violation that warrants further investigation.

PDC staff is reminding Kelly Geiger about the importance of providing detailed expenditure descriptions on C-4 reports.

Kelly Geiger made minor or ministerial errors on required reports for election year 2017, which did not materially impact the public interest. Upon being notified of these errors in 2019, Kelly Geiger quickly amended the reports, making the necessary technical corrections as requested by staff.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Tabatha Blacksmith at 1-360-586-8929, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828 or by e-mail at pdcc@pdc.wa.gov

Sincerely,

/s

Tabatha Blacksmith
Compliance Coordinator

Endorsed by,

/s

Barbara Sandahl
Deputy Director
For Peter Lavallee
Executive Director

cc: Kelly Geiger